

APR 27 2004

OFFICIAL PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 09/842,466
Applicant(s): Kokubo et al.
Filed: April 26, 2001
Art Unit: 1615
Examiner: Sheikh, Humera N
Title: SOLID PREPARATION COATED A FILM COATING LAYER
AND FILM COATING AGENT

Confirmation No.: 8005

Docket No.: 035576/233803
Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT
(37 CFR 1.121)

Sir:

This is in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated April 9, 2004. Please accept the following Amendments to the Claims and Remarks/Arguments in place of those submitted in the Preliminary Amendment of March 25, 2004. The previous Amendment did not account for claims 21 - 30, which had been withdrawn due to a previous restriction requirement. This Response corrects the previous deficiency by correctly renumbering the claims.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

04/30/2004 CBETANCO 00000002 160605 09842466
Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

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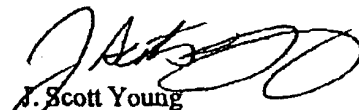
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The pending claims, as added and amended, clearly distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that she contact the undersigned at her convenience.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

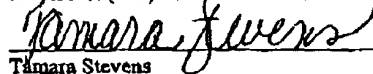
Respectfully submitted,

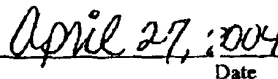

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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on the date shown below.


Tamara Stevens


Date

CLT01/4643226v1